

REMARKS

In the October 20, 2005 Office Action, the Examiner noted that claims 1-5 and 7-15 were pending in the application and were rejected under 35 USC § 103. In rejecting the claims, U.S. Patents 6,335,729 to Nunokawa et al. and 6,512,497 to Kondo et al. (References B and C, respectively, in the April 14, 2005 Office Action) were cited. Claims 1-5 and 7-15 remain in the case. The Examiner's rejections are traversed below.

The rejection on pages 2-5 of the Office Action is the same as in the April 14, 2005 Office Action, except for (1) changes reflecting the amendments to the claims in the August 15, 2005 Amendment; (2) new text that was added at page 3, lines 5-11 and page 4, lines 7-8; and (3) changes in the wording of a sentence at page 4, lines 11-12. The new text included citations to column 8, lines 17-21 and column 10, line 61 to column 11, line 3 of Nunokawa et al. which describe storing "control data for the recording medium ... in the non-volatile storage" (column 10, lines 61-66) which is not the "map data itself ..., [but rather] other data ... to reduce waiting time" (column 8, lines 17-21). The new text also asserted that in "two-screen mode, the image data for the current page and the next page is read and displayed, ie, two ... images" (Office Action, page 4, lines 7-8) without citing any support in Nunokawa et al. or Kondo et al.

In the Response to Arguments section on pages 5-6 of the Office Action, it was asserted that the "control data for the recording medium" of Nunokawa et al. is the same as the "state information" recited in the claims and that the claims recite "the display information writing unit only writes the currently (or last displayed image before power off) displayed image which is exactly what Kondo teaches" (Office Action, page 6, lines 6-8).

The independent claims have been amended to prevent the interpretation described in the preceding paragraph. The phrase "display information for indicating a display state" (e.g., claim 1, line 9) when properly interpreted in light of the specification requires more than just the image itself, as taught by Kondo et al. As described at e.g., page 10, lines 1-5; the display information includes "a displayed position, of a currently displayed image" (claim 1, line 10). There is no suggestion in either Nunokawa et al. or Kondo et al. of storing this sort of "information indicating a display **state**" (claim 1, line 9, emphasis added) upon "detecting a user's display operation to modify a display state of the image displayed on the image display unit" (claim 1, lines 7-8) "if the display information is not already stored in the non-volatile storage unit (claim 1, line 12). By storing such information, the present invention provides the benefit that a displayed position can be reproduced when displaying each page of many images, as described in the application.

The newly cited portion of column 8 of Nunokawa et al. states that "other data in the map disk ... may be saved in the data saving memory 18 to reduce the waiting time" (column 8, lines 19-21). This "other data" is described as "control information (TOC, disk label, etc.) of the disk" (column 8, lines 31-32). It is submitted that such data is not equivalent to and does not suggest storing "display information for indicating a display state, including a displayed position, of a currently displayed image" (claim 1, lines 9-10), because the information that is stored or written according to the present invention typically changes in response to operations performed by the user, while Nunokawa et al. teaches storing data that never changes, so that "information including track numbers, duration of pieces of music ... [can be] displayed on the display" (column 8, lines 47-49).

For the above reasons and the reasons set forth in the August 15, 2005 Amendment, it is submitted that the independent claims and claims 2-10 which depend from claim 1, patentably distinguish over Nunokawa et al. and Kondo et al.

Summary

It is submitted that the references cited by the Examiner do not teach or suggest the features of the present claimed invention. Thus, it is submitted that claims 1-5 and 7-15 are in a condition suitable for allowance. Reconsideration of the claims and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 2/21/06

By: Richard A. Gollhofer
Richard A. Gollhofer
Registration No. 31,106

1201 New York Ave, N.W., 7th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501